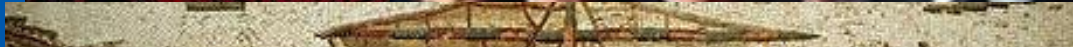
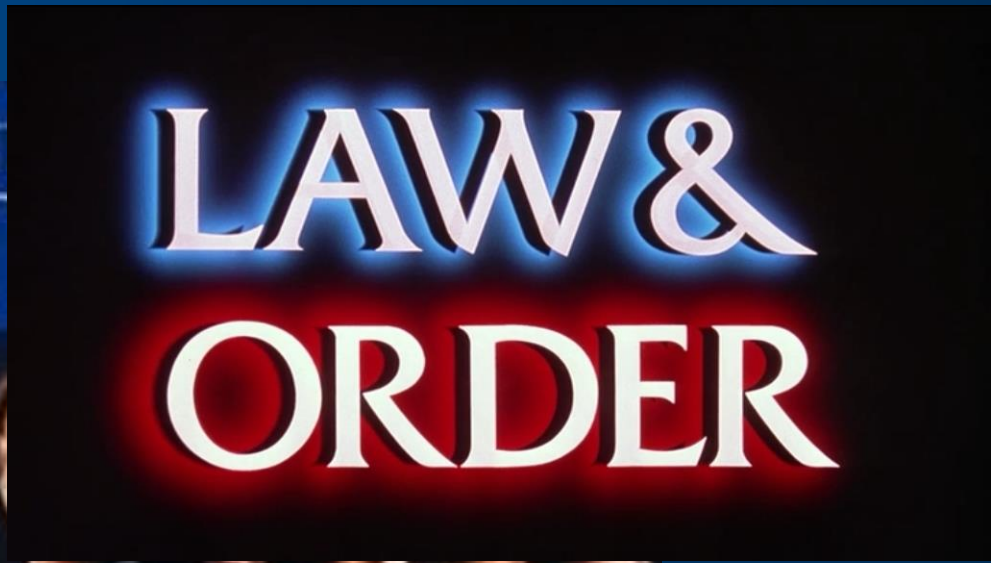
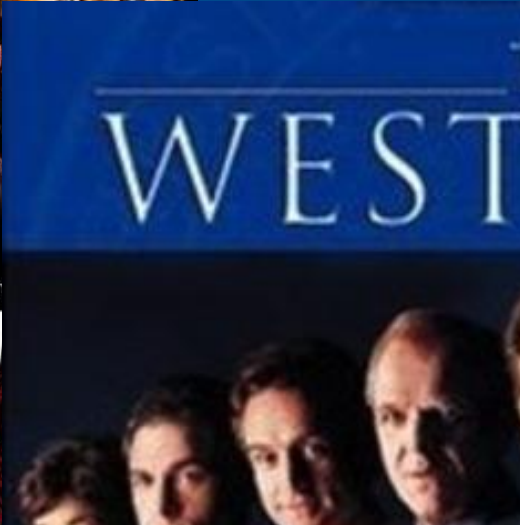


# Meta-Majors: Increasing Student Success through Engagement and Informed Choice

April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016



**COMPLETE COLLEGE** AMERICA





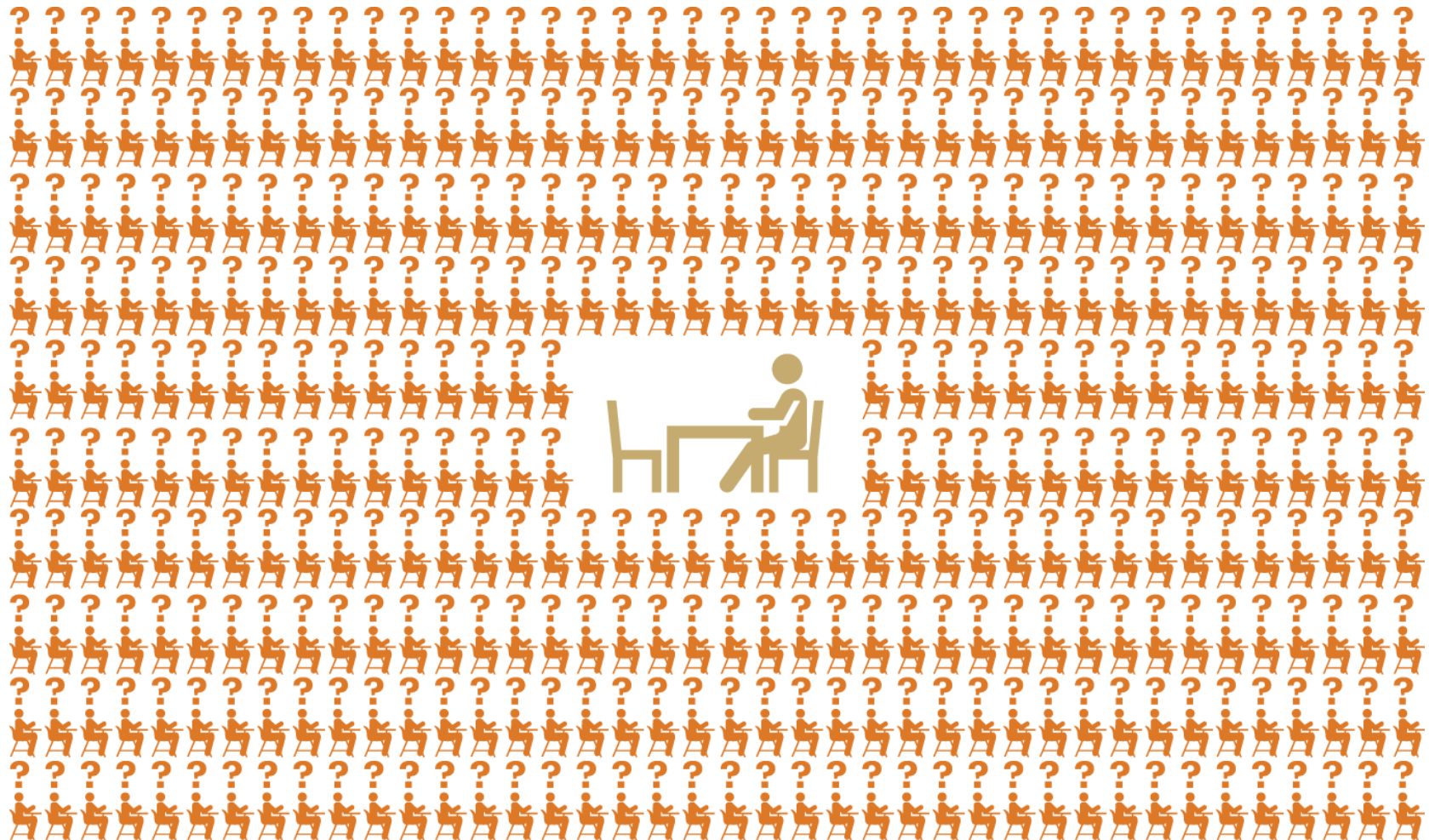
## Why GPS?

## Too Many Choices and Too Little Guidance

- Most colleges have more than 100 majors and hundreds of courses.
- Most students are unaware of their career options.
- **45%** of students haven't seen a counselor by the third week of class.

**Why  
GPS?**

**1 counselor : 400 students**



**Why  
GPS?**

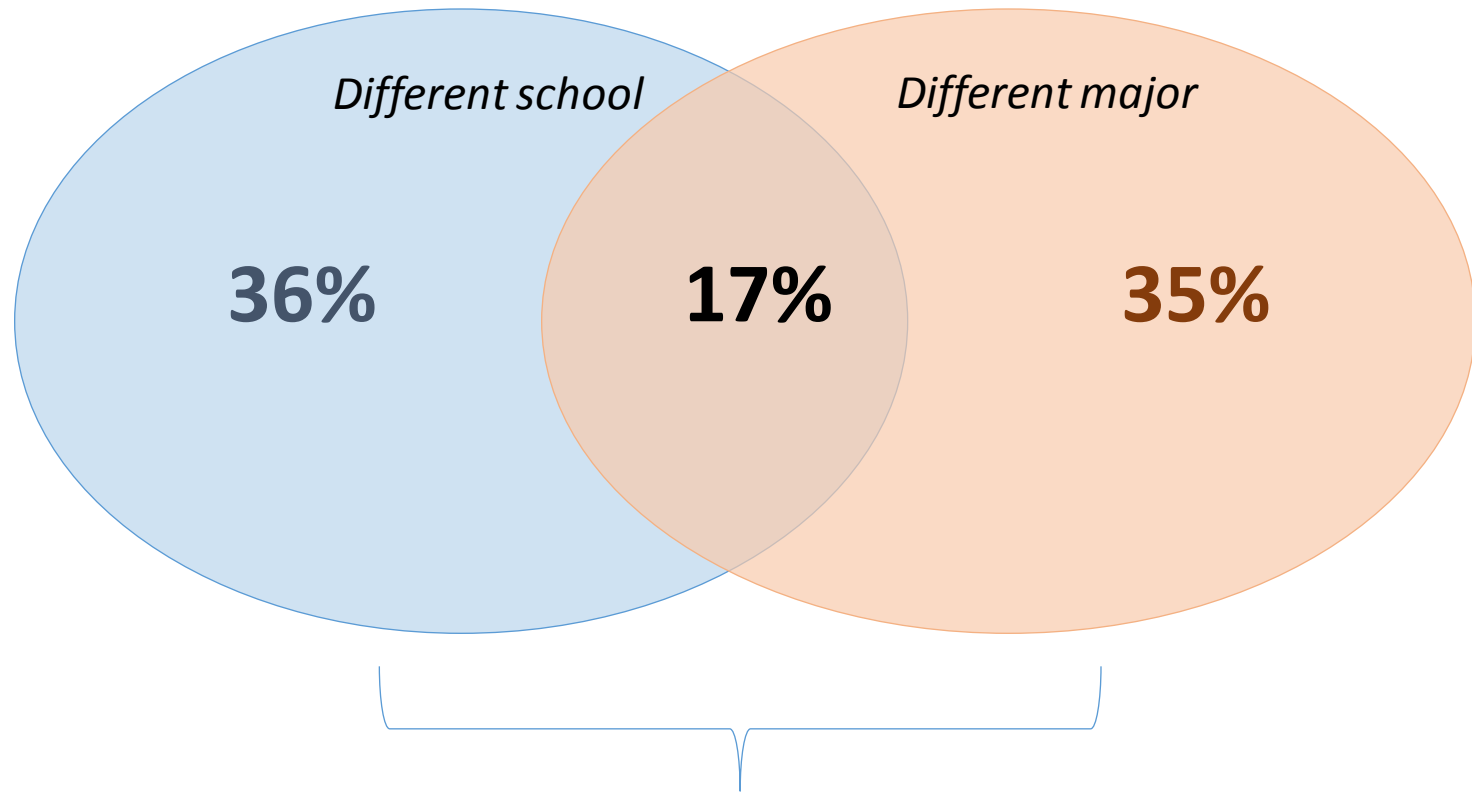
## **Behavioral Economics: Choice**

**Too much choice**

**— especially uninformed  
choice — leads to indecision  
or poor decisions.**

# More than half of all graduates regret some of their choices in college

---



***53% regret at least one choice***

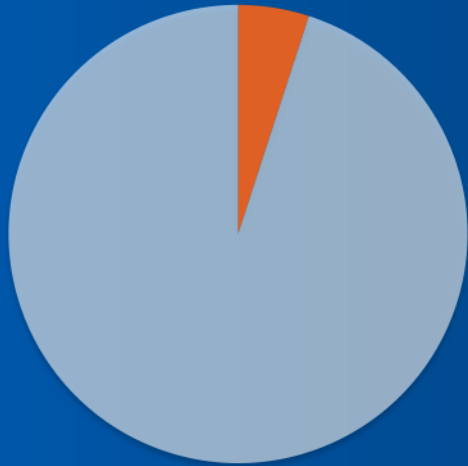
(McKinsey: *Voice of the Graduate*, 2013)

A 3D perspective view of a complex white maze. A small figure of a person in an orange shirt and blue pants stands at the bottom left, looking into the maze. A black rectangular box with white text is centered in the middle of the image.

**NO CLEAR PATH**

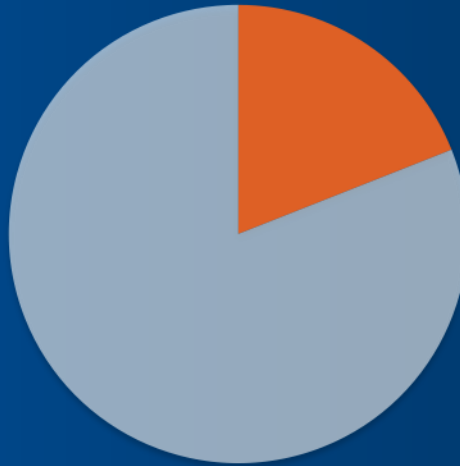
# On-Time Graduation Rates

2-Year



5%

4-Year  
(non-flagship)



19%

4-Year  
(flagship/  
very high research)

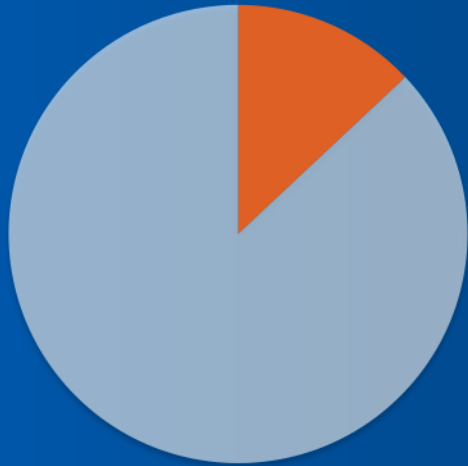


36%



# 150% Graduation Rates

2-Year



**13%**

4-Year  
(non-flagship)



**43%**

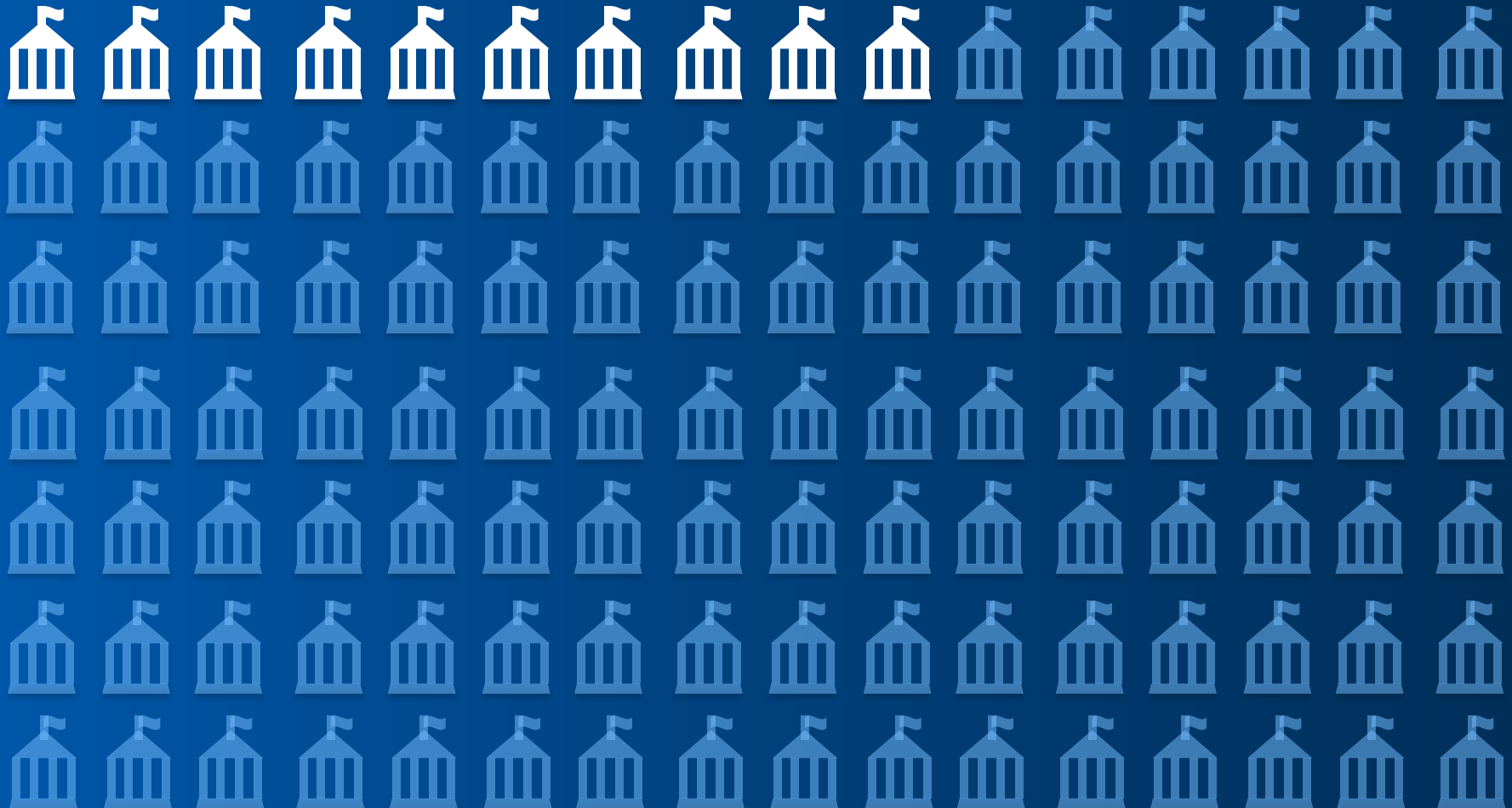
4-Year  
(flagship/  
very high research)



**68%**

# 50 of 580+

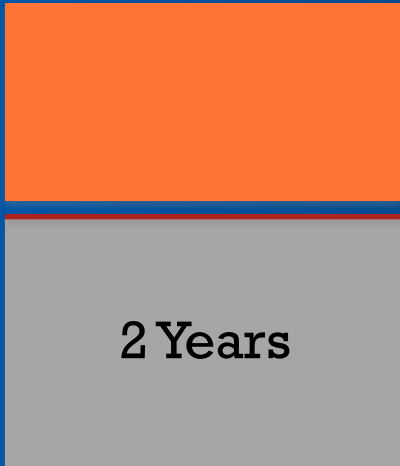
public four-year institutions



# Time to Degree

2-Year

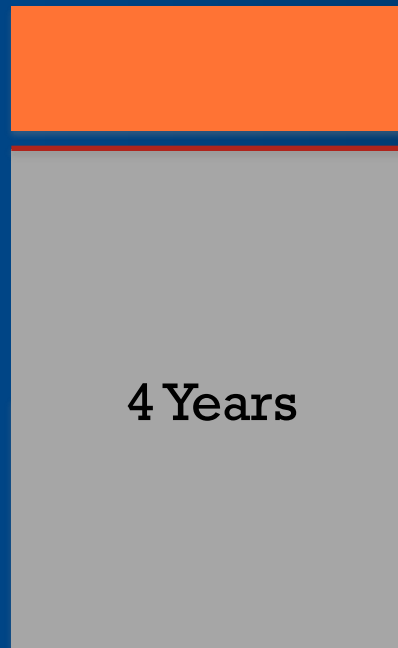
3.6



4-Year

(non-flagship)

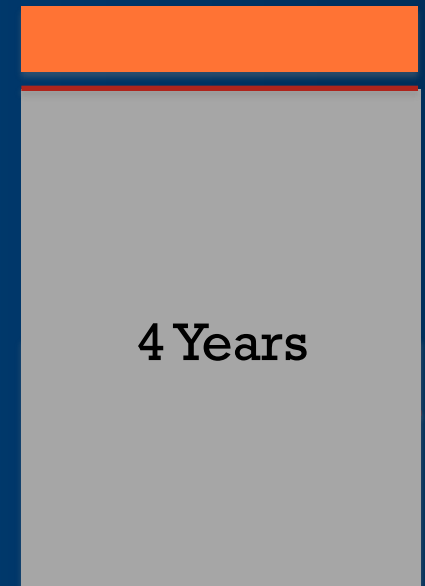
4.9



4-Year

(flagship/  
very high research)

4.4



# Excess Credits

2-Year

80.9



60 Credits

4-Year

(non-flagship)

133.5



120 Credits

4-Year

(flagship/  
very high research)

134.6



120 Credits



# Yearly Cost of Attendance

## 2-Year Commuter

\$1,270  
books  
and supplies

\$3,264  
tuition  
and fees

\$7,466  
room  
and board

\$2,225  
other  
expenses

\$1,708  
transportation

**\$15,933**

# Yearly Cost of Attendance

**4-Year  
In-State**

\$8,893  
tuition  
and fees

\$9,498  
room  
and board

\$1,207  
books  
and supplies

\$2,105  
other  
expenses

\$1,123  
transportation

**\$22,826**

# Extra Year

2-Year

**\$15,933**

attendance

**\$35,000**

lost wages

---

**\$50,933**

4-Year

**\$22,826**

attendance

**\$45,327**

lost wages

---

**\$68,153**

# ~70% increase

\$20,000



On Time

\$35,000



In 6 Years

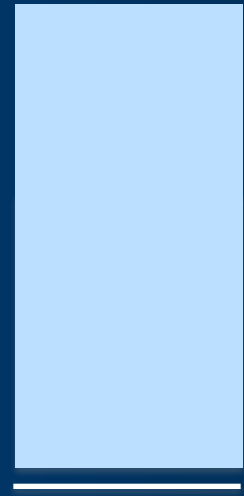
**TEMPLE  
UNIVERSITY**

\$19,000



On Time

\$32,000



In 6 Years

**UT-AUSTIN**

## Debt After Graduation



**Why  
GPS?**

## **Behavioral Economics: Default**

**A substantial number of people accept — even welcome — a default choice designed by informed professionals.**

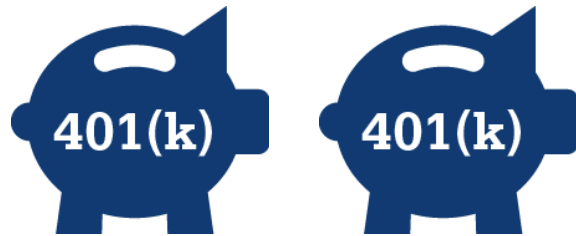
**Why  
GPS?**

# Behavioral Economics: **Choice**

## Overwhelmed by Choice

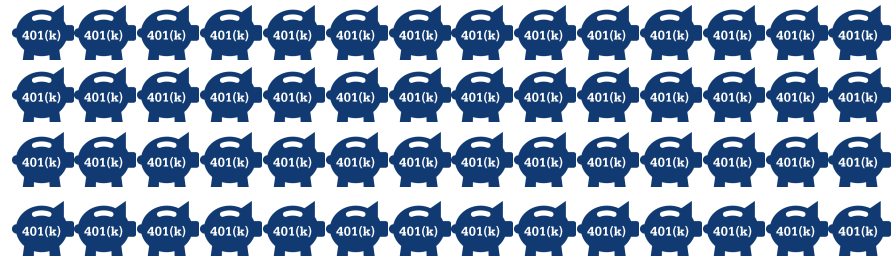
### 401(k) plans

**2 Plans Offered**



**75% Participation**

**59 Plans Offered**



**60% Participation**



# GPS DIRECT

**COMPLETE COLLEGE** AMERICA

Choose your path.

Start your path.

Stay on your path.

Graduate.



# GPS DIRECT

- **Structured Schedules**
- **Corequisite Remediation**
- **Default Pathways**

**Choose Path**

- **Purpose First (Onboarding)**
- **Meta-Majors**
- **15-To-Finish**

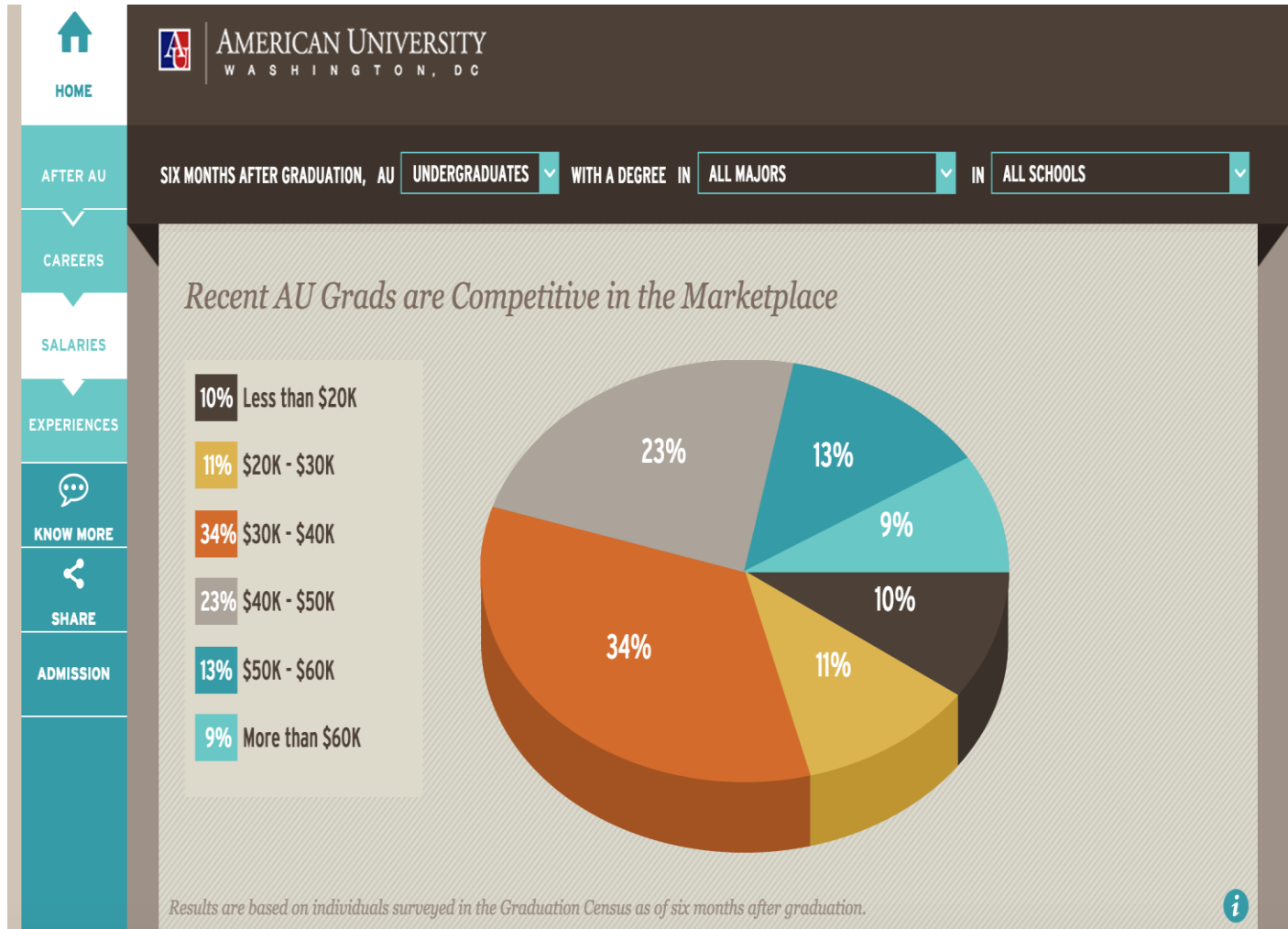
**Start Path**

**Stay On Path / Graduate**

- **Academic Maps**
- **Critical Path Courses**
- **Intrusive Advising**

**TECHNOLOGY | DATA METRICS**

# American University "We Know Success"



# Valencia College Atlas & LifeMap



ATLAS LOGIN

Future Students

Current Students

Faculty & Staff

Visitors & Friends

Quick Links

Search

Home > Students > LifeMap

## Navigate

More on LifeMap

Career Development  
Services Summary

College Transition

Intro to College

Progression to Degree

Graduation Transition

Lifelong Learning

## Related Links

- [Career Development Services](#)

# LifeMap®

## What is LifeMap?

LifeMap is a student's guide to figuring out "what to do when" in order to complete their career and education goals. LifeMap links all of the components of Valencia (faculty, staff, courses, technology, programs, services) into a personal itinerary to help students succeed in their college experience.

## Guide to My LifeMap

- LifeMap tools for planning your education and career are within Atlas on the My LifeMap tab.
- LifeMap stage links on the left tool bar provide more detail on how to progress through Valencia programs and services.
- LifeMap resource links on the bottom of the left tool bar provide additional Valencia resources.

view video



## What is LifeMap?

**VALENCIA ALERTS**

Emergency Alerts and Important Reminders

[Careers](#)[College Planner](#)[Paying for College](#)[Parent Info](#)[Transfer](#)[Apply Now](#)

## Welcome to the Virginia Education Wizard

Let the Wizard help you choose a career, get the information you need to pursue your career, find the college that is right for you, pay for college, transfer from a community college to a university, and get answers to your questions about your future.



Show Guide's Transcript  
Turn guide off

[Introduction  
& Overview](#)[Career  
Assessment](#)[College Cost  
Calculator](#)[College  
Search](#)[Transfer  
Planner](#)[Find Your College](#)[Find Your Career](#)[Additional Tools](#)

Select a Community College in the map above or search all colleges and universities [here](#).



### Veteran's Career Finder

Learn more about civilian careers that match your military services skills and occupation.





# Meta-Major to Majors

- Help students make the big choices (a meta major/major).
- Once in a meta-major, help students narrow their study to a major.
- A semester-by-semester academic map is the sequential, prescriptive schedule of classes for the meta-major and the major.

# Meta Majors





# Intrusive Advising

- Students must see their advisors before registering for classes if:
  - they do not complete the critical path course on schedule
  - they fall 2 or more courses behind on their academic map
  - they have a 2.0 GPA or less for the semester



# Critical Path Courses

- Prerequisite courses are designated for each semester.
- Taken in the recommended sequence.
- The college guarantees the critical path courses are available.



- **Degree maps** and **intrusive advising**
- Graduation rates **up 20 percentage points** in past 10 years
- Graduation rates higher for:
  - Pell students, at **52.5%**
  - African American students, at **57.4%**
  - Hispanic students students, at **66.4%**
- More bachelor's degrees to African-Americans than any other U.S. university



# Meta-Majors

Volunteer State Community College

## Picking a Meta-major

- Moving from Undecided to a Meta-Major
  - Hint: Be a proactive advisor.
- Get connected to an advisor
  - Hint: Working with a professional advisor will help.
- Work on picking a new major
  - Hint: Career exploration will help.
- Transition to the a degree program
  - Hint: Time for some intrusive advising.
- Work on next steps
  - Hint: It's about more than class selection.



# Start with Academic Maps

- Academic maps are readily available to all interested parties (internally and externally).
- Academic advisors and faculty are encouraged to use the maps and are invited to submit suggestions and revisions to division deans.
- Revisions and suggestions are collected, reviewed, discussed, and implemented as appropriate.
- Maps are updated regularly for accuracy and relevancy (map management is essential).



# Meta-Major Development

- In June 2015 the Academic Leadership Team met to discuss meta-majors and the design of clear pathways and predictable/transferable course sequences for students arriving in their first semester without clear direction and/or in pursuit of career exploration before commitment to a specific program of study.

The team considered the following questions:

- How do meta-majors contribute to transfer and the college/career trajectory?
- How do meta-majors contribute to student learning and career/learning exploration at MCC?
- Are there meta-majors that we have not considered and/or that have emerged in our overall review of program maps?

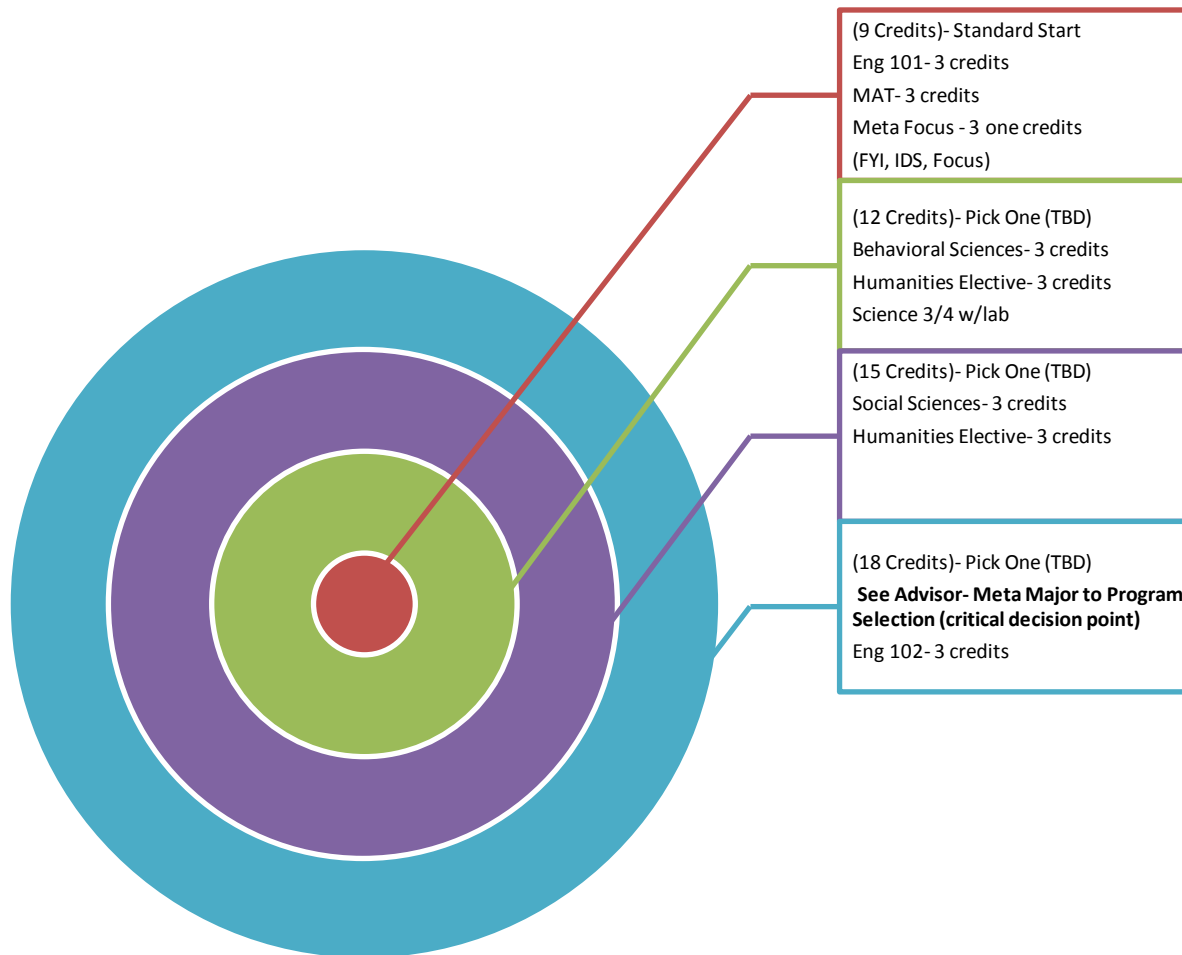


# Looking at the Big Picture

- A meta-major conceptual model was designed as a means of simplifying the course selection and transferability determinations among programs, and to identify areas with potential for course alignment and/or where distinct differences or requirements are necessary along the trajectory of the program of study and degree completion.
- For the purposes of this discussion, the first two semesters of each meta-major was the focus of the course selection and sequencing.



# Conceptual Model





# Developing the STEM Meta-Major

- Fall 14
  - 10 STEM faculty + 2 advisors + 7 administrators = 1 Draft Meta-Major
  - Designed by aligning first-year courses on STEM Program curriculum maps
  - Developed a contextualized course to accelerate progress into calculus
    - Mathematical concepts are used to solve engineering and science problems
  - Designed a 3 credit learning community as part of Meta-Major
    - a First Year Experience course
    - a Career Development course
    - An interdisciplinary project/problem based STEM exploration course
- 2015/16
  - Revised with external and internal input
  - Institutional approval of new course
  - Development of advising protocols and materials



# Keys to developing the STEM Pathway

- Takes time, collaboration and incentives
  - Stipends and professional development opportunities
    - Massachusetts CCA STEM Academy May 2014
    - MCC working group of faculty and staff summer and fall 2014
      - STEM faculty- led activities
      - Summer and fall workshops
- Critical pieces
  - Faculty participation
  - Collaborative approach
  - Feedback: Both internal and external





# Components of the STEM Pathway

- Mathematics Course
- Science Course with lab
- 3 credit Interdisciplinary course (IDS)
- English Course
- Humanities Course

Total = 17 credits

- *Provides for strong foundation for degree, flexibility and exploration*



Pathways to Achievement, Completion, Career & Transfer

## ACADEMIC PATHWAY



### Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Pathway

These pathways provide access to a wide range of programs in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). If you are unsure of which area you want to pursue, you may follow either of the two pathways. Each pathway is intended as the first semester of a STEM major. You will take courses designed to move you forward to a degree and also explore career options in STEM.

The Science, Engineering and Mathematics Sequence offers degrees for students who want to be engineers, scientists, science or mathematics teachers, or computer scientists, or who have interest in pursuing research in science or mathematics. These degrees are all designed to transfer to four-year colleges of universities.

The Technology Sequence offers degrees in fields that prepare students for direct entry into work and also offer transfer opportunities. Degrees in this sequence offer employment opportunities in the fields of biotechnology, energy, mechanical design, and IT/Cybersecurity.

**START here**

#### Science, Engineering, or Mathematics



If you have been placed in any developmental class, you must see an advisor before registering for courses.

SEMESTER 1	CREDITS	MILESTONE	COMPLETED
ENG 101 – English Composition I	3		<input type="checkbox"/>
Pre-Calculus MAF 105 or Higher	4		<input type="checkbox"/>
IDS 101 – First Year Experience	1		<input type="checkbox"/>
IDS 115 – STEM Exploration	1		<input type="checkbox"/>
IDS – Choose any other IDS elective	1		<input type="checkbox"/>
CHE 151 – General Chemistry for Engineering & Science	4		<input type="checkbox"/>
ETH 101 – Ethics and Society	3		<input type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL CREDITS 17

Continue on to major in a Science, Engineering or Mathematics Transfer Program



#### Technology

You may be eligible for the Commonwealth Honors Program, please speak to an advisor before you register.



SEMESTER 1	CREDITS	MILESTONE	COMPLETED
ENG 101 – English Composition I	3		<input type="checkbox"/>
MAF 177 – Statistics	3		<input type="checkbox"/>
IDS 101 – First Year Experience	1		<input type="checkbox"/>
IDS 105 – Career Exploration	1		<input type="checkbox"/>
IDS 115 – STEM Exploration	1		<input type="checkbox"/>
CHE 101 – College Chemistry I	4		<input type="checkbox"/>
ETH 101 – Ethics and Society	3		<input type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL CREDITS 16

Continue on to major in a Technology Program



To learn more, call us at 1-800-818-3434 or visit [www.middlesex.mass.edu](http://www.middlesex.mass.edu)



# Entry Points & Pathways for All

- 7 Pathways have been developed:
  - Health
  - Social Sciences
  - Arts, Humanities & Communication
  - Public Services
  - Business
  - Education
  - Science, Math, Engineering & Technology (2 on one map)



Pathways to Achievement, Completion, Career & Transfer

## ACADEMIC PATHWAY



### Social Science Pathway

The Social Science pathway provides access to a range of programs within the social and behavioral sciences. As a field, social and behavioral sciences explore human development, social behavior as well as historical, global, and political analysis. As part of this area's course offering, students will be asked to think critically about these and other connections and effectively communicate their ideas.

Middlesex degree programs from this guided pathway are: Psychology Concentration within the Liberal Arts and Sciences Associates, History, Politics and Global Studies Concentration with the Liberal Arts and Sciences Associates, Associate in Science in Human Services career or transfer program.

Transfer majors for this pathway include: American Studies, Anthropology, Economics, Geography, History, International Relations, Peace and Conflict Studies, Political Science, Pre-law, Psychology, and Sociology.

#### START here



If you have been placed in any developmental class, you must see an advisor before registering for courses.

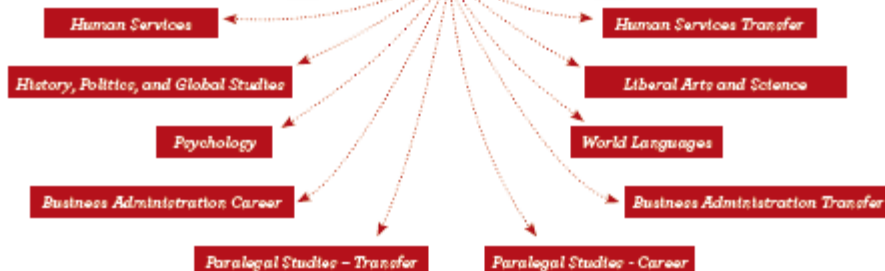
You may be eligible for the Commonwealth Honors Program, please speak to an advisor before you register.



SEMESTER 1 - FALL	CREDITS	MILESTONE	COMPLETED
ENG 101 - English Composition I	3		<input type="checkbox"/>
IDS 101 - First Year Experience	1		<input type="checkbox"/>
PSY 101 - Introduction to Psychology	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MAT 122 - Statistics	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ENV 121 - Environmental Science with Laboratory	4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
TOTAL CREDITS 14			



Continue on to major in a Social Science or a Business or a Paralegal Program.



To learn more, call us at 1-800-818-3434 or visit [www.middlesex.mass.edu](http://www.middlesex.mass.edu)

# Questions?

**COMPLETE COLLEGE** AMERICA

# COMPLETE COLLEGE AMERICA

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[info@completecollege.org](mailto:info@completecollege.org)



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